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Dkt. 2271/71086

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of: Takehiro NAKAJIMA

Serial No.: 10/662,667

Date Filed: September 15, 2003

For: METHOD OF AND APPARATUS FOR IMAGE PROCESSING, IMAGE PROCESSING SYSTEM, AND IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited this date with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Paul Teng
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September 7, 2005

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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Pursuant to the applicant's duty of disclosure, the information listed in the attached Form PTO-1449 is brought to the attention of the Examiner.

It is respectfully requested that the information cited in the annexed Form PTO-1449 be considered by the Examiner in connection with the above-identified patent application, and that such art be made of record in said application.

The information listed in the Form PTO-1449 was cited in an August 19, 2005 official Communication and European Search Report in connection with European Application No. EP 03 25 5893 which corresponds to the above-identified application. A copy of the August 19, 2005 Communication and European Search Report is enclosed herewith.

The other reference (JP 2000-4369) cited in the European Search Report which is not listed in the annexed Form PTO-1449 was enclosed with the Information Disclosure Statement filed concurrently with this application on September 15, 2003.

The citation of the listed items is not a representation that they constitute a complete or

exhaustive listing of the relevant art or that these items are prior art. The items listed are submitted in good faith, but are not intended to substitute for the Examiner's search. It is hoped, however, that in addition to apprising the Examiner of the particular items, they will assist in identifying fields of search and in making as full and complete a search as possible.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement is not an admission that the information cited herein is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b).

According to the August 5, 2003 OG Notice published by the Patent and Trademark Office, the Office has waived the requirement under 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2)(i) for submitting a copy of each cited U.S. patent and each cited U.S. patent application publication for all U.S. national patent applications filed after June 30, 2003 and for all international application that have entered the national stage under 35 U.S.C. §371 after June 30, 2003.

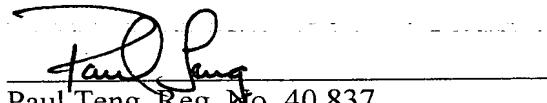
Accordingly, copies are submitted herewith for only references listed on the annexed Form PTO-1449 that are not a U.S. patent or U.S. patent application publication.

This Information Disclosure is submitted pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(3). To the best of Applicant's knowledge, a first Office Action on the merits has not been issued in this application.

Alternatively, Applicant requests consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c)(1). Each item of information listed in the attached Form PTO-1449 was cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior hereto. Accordingly, no fees are believed to be required in connection with this Information Disclosure Statement.

However, the Office is hereby authorized to charge any fees which may be required for consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement and to credit any overpayment to our Deposit Account No. 03-3125.

Respectfully submitted,



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U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office		Atty. Docket No. 2271/71086	Serial No. 10/662,667
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION (Use several sheets if necessary)		Applicants: Takehiro NAKAJIMA	
		Filing Date: September 15, 2003	Group Art Unit:

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

EXAMINER **DATE CONSIDERED**

***EXAMINER:** Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609: Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.